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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/707,786

01/12/2004

Hong-chin Lin

EMEP0062USA

1785

27765

7590

12/27/2004

EXAMINER

CUNNINGHAM, TERRY D

(NAIPC) NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE

P.O. BOX 506

MERRIFIELD, VA 22116

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2816

DATE MAILED: 12/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/707,786

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL.

Examiner

Terry D. Cunningham

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Art Unit: 2816

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 2 and 3 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form.

In claim 2, reciting the method for only "each even stage" does not limit the overall method of claim 1. It is suggested that "for" in line 1 be changed to --, wherein-- and that "comprising" in line 2 be changed to --comprises--.

In claim 3, reciting the method for only "each odd stage" does not limit the overall method of claim 1. It is suggested that "for" in line 1 be changed to --, wherein-- and that "comprising" in line 2 be changed to --comprises--.

Claims 5 and 10 are objected to for the informalities listed below.

In claim 5, line 2, "comprising" should be --comprises--.

In claim 10, line 1, "comprises" should be --comprising--.

Appropriate corrections for the above discussed objections are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, it is not understood how the circuit can operate without a recitation of a connection between the units or and recitation of an output. Thus, it is suggested that --to provide a common output-- be inserted following "unit" and before the comma in line 4. In line

Art Unit: 2816

28, "the bodies of the main pass transistor" has no antecedent, is not understood and is grammatically incorrect. It is suggested that this phrase be changed to --the body of each main pass transistor of the first and second pumping units--. In line 42, there is no antecedent for "the method for the first stage of the dual pumping circuit" or "the first stage". Further, it is not understood how this relates to the "method" of line 1. Thus, it is suggested that "for the first stage of the dual pumping circuit" be deleted.

Claims 2-8 are rejected as including the indefiniteness discussed above with claim 1.

Claim 9 is indefinite for similar reasons as lines 1-41 of claim 1.

Claims 10-16 are rejected as including the indefiniteness discussed above with claim 9.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-16 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the informality objections and the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Claims 1-16 are deemed allowable over the prior art. While many of the cited circuits, such as Bloch et al., disclose a pump stage having a "first pumping unit" similar to the recited in the claims, none of the cited reference further disclose a "second pumping unit" interoperating with the "first pumping unit" and having the recited connections.

Conclusion

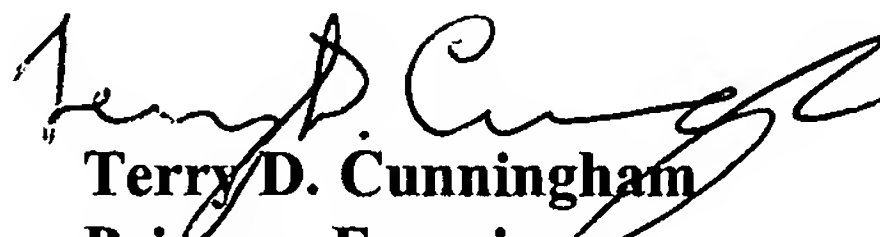
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Terry Cunningham whose telephone number is 571-272-1742. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 to 6:00.

Art Unit: 2816

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TC
December 22, 2004


Terry D. Cunningham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2816